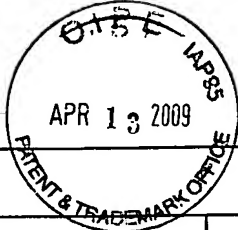


FORM PTO-1449
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

 ATTY DOCKET NO.
 542-003.003

 SERIAL NO.
 10/018,515

APPLICANTS: Mekata et al.

 FILING DATE:
 December 13, 2001

ART UNIT: 1616

UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	INVENTOR/ASSIGNEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		US 4,262,823	April 1981	Monden	222	321	
		US 4,942,874	July 1990	Terada et al.	128	203.16	
		US 5,881,925	March 1999	Ando	222	190	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
		JP 5-277188	Oct. 1993	Japan			Yes, abstract only

OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

Examiner Alton Nathaniel Pryor

Date: